

RECKLESS RALPH'S

OFFICIAL ORGAN-HAPPY HOURS BROTHERHOOD.

By

It was back in 1916 when I saw my first Diamond Dick Weekly. I was serving milk for my father at the time and there lived in Fisherville, a chap named Clarence DeRossier. One fine morning as I came along with the milk, I found Clarence reading either a Wild West Weekly or a Buffalo Bill Weekly of the 1900 to 1904 type; I forget which. As up to that time I had never seen other than Tousey novels I fell in love with it, right away. My interest was simply great and one word led to another, whereupon Clarence invited me to take a peek at his collection of novels which he kept in his bedroom. Believe me, I followed him like a bloodhound on the scent of a murderer or bank robber. Then and there I surely received a great surprise for he brought out stacks of them from the clothes closet, and oh boy, what feeling I experienced; not to say how excited I was, too.

There on the bed, before my very eyes, altho it was hard to beleive it, were heaps of the novels of the 1900-1906 type, such as Diamond Dick's in the 500's-Buffalo Bill Stories-Wild West-Pluck & Luck-Secret Service-Liberty Boys of '76-Work & Win-Nick Carter-Tip Top-Snaps-Old Sleuth-Brave & Bold-and many others. That was certainly a happy experience, and as I left on father's milk route, it was with light and happy heart and I made record time in finishing up the run. Then, I lost no time in

VOL. THREE. AUG.-1934 NO. 32

AUG.-1934

NO. 32

beating it back to DeRossier's home, and as a result, I came away with nearly all of the novels, except a few he decided to keep, to read. After finishing my chores, that day, I hied me to those wonderful little paper-covers, feasting my eyes on the attractive covers, and getting them in order.

If I remember correctly, the first Diamond Dick Weekly I ever read from the lot, was No. 607, entitled, "Diamond Dick's High Water Mark" or, The Flood that Paralyzed Pumpkinville. As I recall it, the cover shows Diamond Dick, Jr. astride a huge log in the middle of the dangerous rapids. It seems to me there were two other fellows with him, but it is not so clear in my mind. When I sold all my Diamond Dicks to Mr. Edward Leithhead away back in 1926, I believe No. 706 went along with them. I live in hopes of getting another copy, some day, and perhaps some collector who reads this may have it, and give me a chance at it. What say, boys?

I've read many "father and son" Diamond Dick's from time to time, such as, "Diamond Dick's Four Footed Pard, or, Winning a Game Hands Down". Both father and son are in this story, and it's really a corker. Among the small-size weeklies I have read, were: D.D. with the K-X Outfit--D.D. and the Hoodooed Prospector--D.D.'s Lucky Clue--D.D. in Dawson--D.D.'s Race Against Time--D.D.'s Dangerous Duty--D.D.'s Loyalty, or, The Mystery of Handsome Harry--and right now I am reading, No. 499, D.D.'s Fast Trail, or, A Queer Hunt in Oregon, being a tale of the sheep men in that region. Lucy Mackenzie is running a sheep ranch. The herders are running off her sheep and hiding them in The Devil's Bathtub, that being a large hole in the mountain. The ranchers working for Lucy are a tough bunch. Ben Lister, Ram Sam, Peco the Indian, and Billy

Doo, all play parts in this fine tale. Looked like Jack Sim, the gambler would duel it out with young Diamond Dick, Jr., otherwise known as Bertie, but it ended in a fist fight with Bertie the winner.

Diamond Dick and his son Bertie are true men of the Western plains, noble hearted and not inclined to impose on their weaker brothers. Nor will they let anyone else do it if it's within their power to prevent.

What I call a real treat, is to read how they clean up a mining camp of dishonest gamblers and other low-down undesireables.

A wonderful series of Diamond Dicks include Nos. 239 to 252. The front cover is certainly a "whiz"; a picture of the Senior Diamond Dick which is set in the center of a diamond.

At present I do not have a copy of a Diamond Dick Library published back in 1894, but am living in hopes to cop one or more, some day.. Before closing, for the benefit of those who want to read more of this fine weekly, I would call attention to the fact that Mr. Leithhead ran an interesting serial story in Ralph P. Smith's Happy Hours Magazine, a short time ago.

At some future date, I intend to write an article, telling how I came across a nice lot of the Log Cabin Library.....Au Revoir.

-----o-----

Those collectors interested in completing their sets of Tip Top, are requested to send their names to the Editor. So far, three collectors have joined up. Here is an opportunity to help, and be helped to fill in your Tip Top gaps. Let's get going ! (The Pub.)

-----o-----

The series of photos of the members that are appearing in D.N.R. are:

1. Reckless Ralph Cummings - Pres. H.H.B.
2. Robert H. Smeltzer - V.P. - H.H.B.

3. Frank T. Fries (appeared in July issue).

A Nice Assortment.

I have one or more of the following in my collection of "old timers"-BEADLES ONLY:

Beadles Dime Novels.	Beadles Dime Library.
" Half-Dime Library.	" New Am. Novel.
" N.Y. Dime Library.	" NY Half-Dime Lib.
" Lib. of Choice Fict.	" Illuminated Pocket
" Boys Lib. (Lg. size).	Novels.
" " (Sm. size).	" Catalogue of Dime
" & Adams 20¢ Novels.	& Nickel Novels.
" N.Y. Sat. Star Journ.	" N.Y. Sat. Journal.
" Young New Yorker.	" Dime Citizen's
" Dime Song Book.	Addiction.
" Dime Yr. Bk. & Almanac,	" Fireside NY Lib.
" American Tales.	" Half-Dime Singers
" I.P. 10¢ Novels.	Library.
" Dime Tales.	" Pocket Novels.
" New Dime Novels.	" Cheap Edition of
" New & Old Friends.	Popular Authors.
" Monthly.	" Lives of Great
" Popular Library.	Americans.
" Pocket Library.	" Weekly.
" Banner Weekly	" Dime Dialogues.
" Dime Speakers.	" Dime Etiquette.
" Dime Chess Inst.	" Dime Recipe Book.
" Dime School Series.	" " Youth's Speaker.
" Dime Biog. Library.	" " Sunnyside Journ.
" Dime Series.Reckless Ralph.

NOTICE.

THE FOSSILS are the senior members of the Nat. Amateur Press Assoc. Mr. Edwin Hadley Smith is Librarian. Recently the complete library was moved from Washington, D.C. to the Franklin Memorial Institute in Philadelphia. Eleven were found to be missing, one of them being #427 of Fame & Fortune Weekly; "Prince, the Printer"... Seeing Bob Smeltzer's ad in April "Roundup", Mr. Smith wrote him in the hope he might have this novel. Bob does not have it, but is anxious to locate it for Mr. Smith.

Whoever has it may have the honor of present;
it to Mr.Smith, or Bob will be glad to buy it
and make presentation to the N.A.P.A.Library
himself..His address is: 3432 No.Bodine St.,
Philadelphia,Pa. -----o-----

NOTE: Beadle's Frontier Series No.55,Trapper
Joe, and No.98,The Scout of the St.Lawrence,
have the same picture on covers. Guess their
artist was on a vacation..Bob Smeltzer.

We've just heard that FRANK JAY, another old
time English collector of the old time Penny
Dreadfuls, and a resident of London,England
died Feb.12,1934. He wrote many articles in
the Collectors Miscellany, and other papers.

IN THE ORIGINAL, of which THIS IS A REPRINT,
the following advertisers appeared:

PARKS,PRINTER,Yorkshire,England.-Collector's
Miscellany.

THE RABBIT REVIEW still offering advice.

L.C.SKINNER,Pawtucket,R.I. offering to fill
your wants.

ERNEST MEIER,N.Y.C. offering,Gems of all
kinds-Necklaces-Cameos-Diamond Scales.Etc.

JAMES MADISON,San Francisco,wanting novels.

AMERICAN DIME NOVEL EXCHANGE,N.Y.C. to swap
novels.

SWAPPERS FRIEND-Hobby Magazine-Saline,Mich.

WATSON CLUB SERVICE,Deep Gap,N.C.-How to run
a Pen Pal's Club.

HARRY MATYCHAK,Newburgh,NY- Stamps.

VALLEY DIME BOOK CO.,Fisherville,Mass.-Novels

ANDREW HANES,JR.-Garfield,N.J.- Stamps.

-----o-----

WE REMIND YOU that this is A REPRINT and
that the ads listed above are only a summary
of those that appeared in the original issue

